

★ UMASS/AMHERST ★



312066 0324 6671 4

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

**PROFILES OF ADOPTED CHILDREN
AND GUARDIANSHIP CHILDREN**

FY'95

RECEIVED
JUL 1 1996
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS
AMHERST, MA 01004

RECEIVED
JUL 1 1996
MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

July 1996



**MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**



**PROFILES OF ADOPTED CHILDREN
AND GUARDIANSHIP CHILDREN**

FY'95

**Prepared by: Antone C. Felix III
Office of Management, Planning & Analysis**

**Office of Management, Planning & Analysis
Rachel A. Berman, Director**

**Department of Social Services
Linda K. Carlisle, Commissioner**

**Department of Social Services
24 Farnsworth Street
Boston, MA 02210-1211**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page</u>
I.	Introduction 1
	A. Children with a Goal of Adoption 3
II.	Adopted Children..... 5
	A. Sex and Age 8
	B. Sibling Group Adoptions 10
	C. Language and Race/Ethnicity..... 11
III.	Adoptive Parent Profile..... 13
	A. Trans-Racial Adoptions 13
	B. Marital Status, Age and Sex..... 14
	C. Race/Ethnicity and Type of Adoptive Home..... 15
IV.	Stages in the Adoption Process..... 16
	A. Continuous Time in Placement..... 16
V.	Guardianship Children 22
	A. Sex and Age 23
	B. Race/Ethnicity 24
	C. Preferred Language..... 25
VI.	Guardian Profile..... 26
	A. Race/Ethnicity 26
	B. Marital Status, Age and Sex..... 26
VII.	Stages in the Guardianship Process..... 27
	A. Continuous Time in Placement..... 27
VIII.	Adoption and Guardianship Subsidies 31
	A. Adoption Subsidies..... 31
	B. Guardianship Subsidies..... 33
	C. Children Receiving Subsidies at the End of FY'95..... 33
IX.	Appendix 34

**PROFILES OF ADOPTED CHILDREN
AND
GUARDIANSHIP CHILDREN
FY'95**

INTRODUCTION

The Department of Social Services (DSS) was established in 1980 with a primary mission to protect children and strengthen families. Families are assisted through a variety of supportive services aimed at creating a safe, nurturing environment for their children. In some cases, in-home services or temporary substitute care are not adequate to maintain or reunite the family. In such instances, DSS obtains permanent custody of the children and develops an appropriate permanent plan for them. DSS supports three alternative plans for children who cannot be returned home: adoption, guardianship, and supervised independent living. The permanent plan outcomes analyzed in this statistical report are adoption and guardianship.

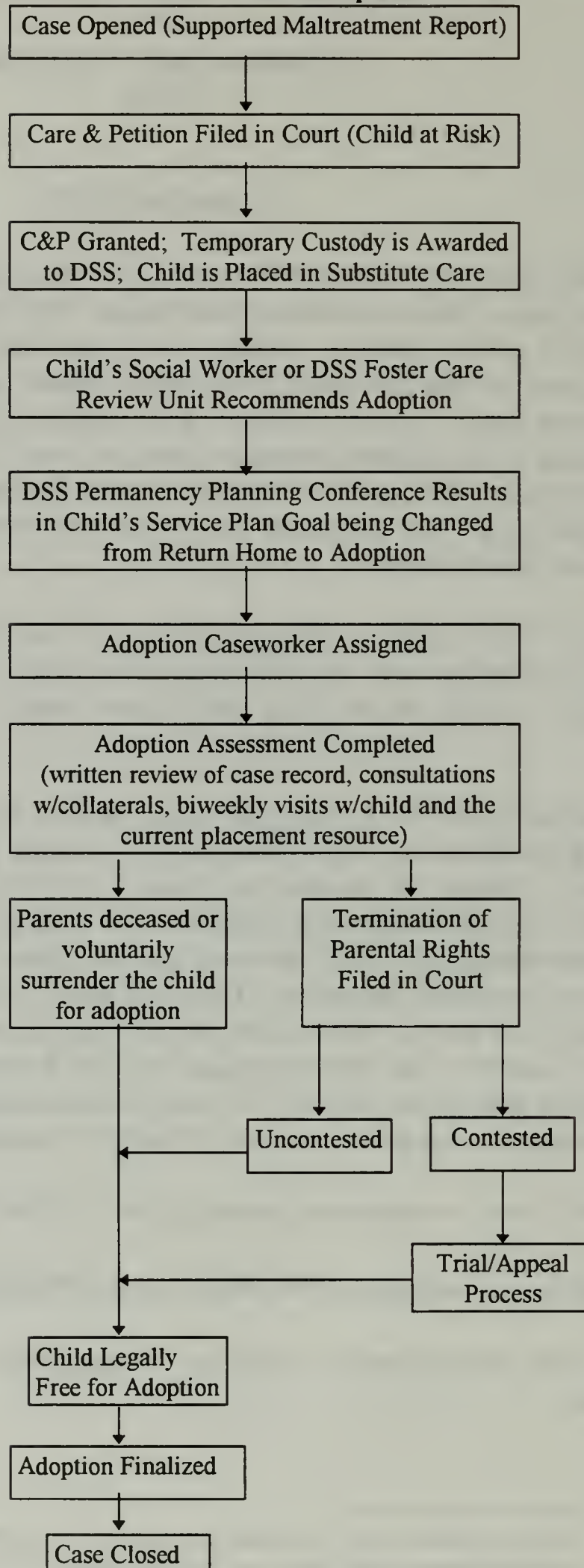
In FY'95, children leaving placement for adoption spent almost four years (median) in substitute care. A relatively new law, Chapter 303 of the Acts of 1992, was established to reduce the length of time children spend in substitute care waiting to be adopted.

In December 1992, Governor Weld signed into law Chapter 303, an "Act Expediting Resolution of Legal Proceedings Involving Children in Need of Care and Protection." Chapter 303 amends the Chapter 119 (Care and Protection of Children) and Chapter 210 (Parental Rights and Adoption) laws. The new law describes 13 factors to be used in determining parental unfitness and permits parental rights to be terminated as part of a care and protection proceeding. DSS staff file a Care and Protection petition in court when a child is at risk of maltreatment if left at home. If the petition is granted, DSS takes temporary custody of the child and places the child in substitute care. The flow chart on the following page shows where a Care and Protection petition occurs in the sequence of events leading to an adoption. Chapter 303 makes three major changes:¹

- Allows for the termination of parental rights in a Care and Protection proceeding
- Establishes a time frame within which Care and Protection cases should be adjudicated
- Sets forth the appropriate factors to consider when deciding the issue of parental fitness

¹ From "A guide to understanding and implementing new Massachusetts Laws" by A. Grey, DSS General Counsel. An article appearing in "Kids Our Common Wealth," Vol. 3-Num. 2 (March 1993)--a DSS publication.

General Outline of the Adoption Process



The opportunity to terminate parental rights at a care and protection proceeding should result in earlier development of permanency plans and more expeditious movement of cases through the courts. In March 1994, DSS distributed protocols to all staff explaining how to implement Chapter 303.

“Chapter 303 will affect the way service plans are written, services are delivered, permanency planning decisions are made, and how DSS presents cases in the courts....Because the decision of whether to seek termination of parental rights will be made more frequently and sometime earlier in the development of a clinical case, there will have to be revisions in the clinical case conference/legal case conference/permanency planning conference system...At virtually every important stage of a clinical case...the question should be asked as to whether parental rights should be terminated...Termination of parental rights can and should be brought when there is a reasonable belief that parental unfitness will be proven at the time of trial.”²

Children with a Goal of Adoption

At the beginning of FY'95, there were 12,977 children under 18 years old in placement (substitute care). Thirty-five percent (4,522) of these children had a service plan goal of adoption. By the end of FY'95, the placement population had grown to 13,056 children. Thirty-three percent (4,352) of these children were on the adoption track. Of the 4,352 children, 1,859 (43%) were matched to a potential adoptive family (Fig.1). However, only 672 of these children were legally “free.” This backlog of children waiting to be freed is related to the rapid growth of the foster care population from 1988 through 1991. Contributing factors to the increase in foster children were the escalation in parental substance abuse (crack/cocaine) and the overburdened court system.

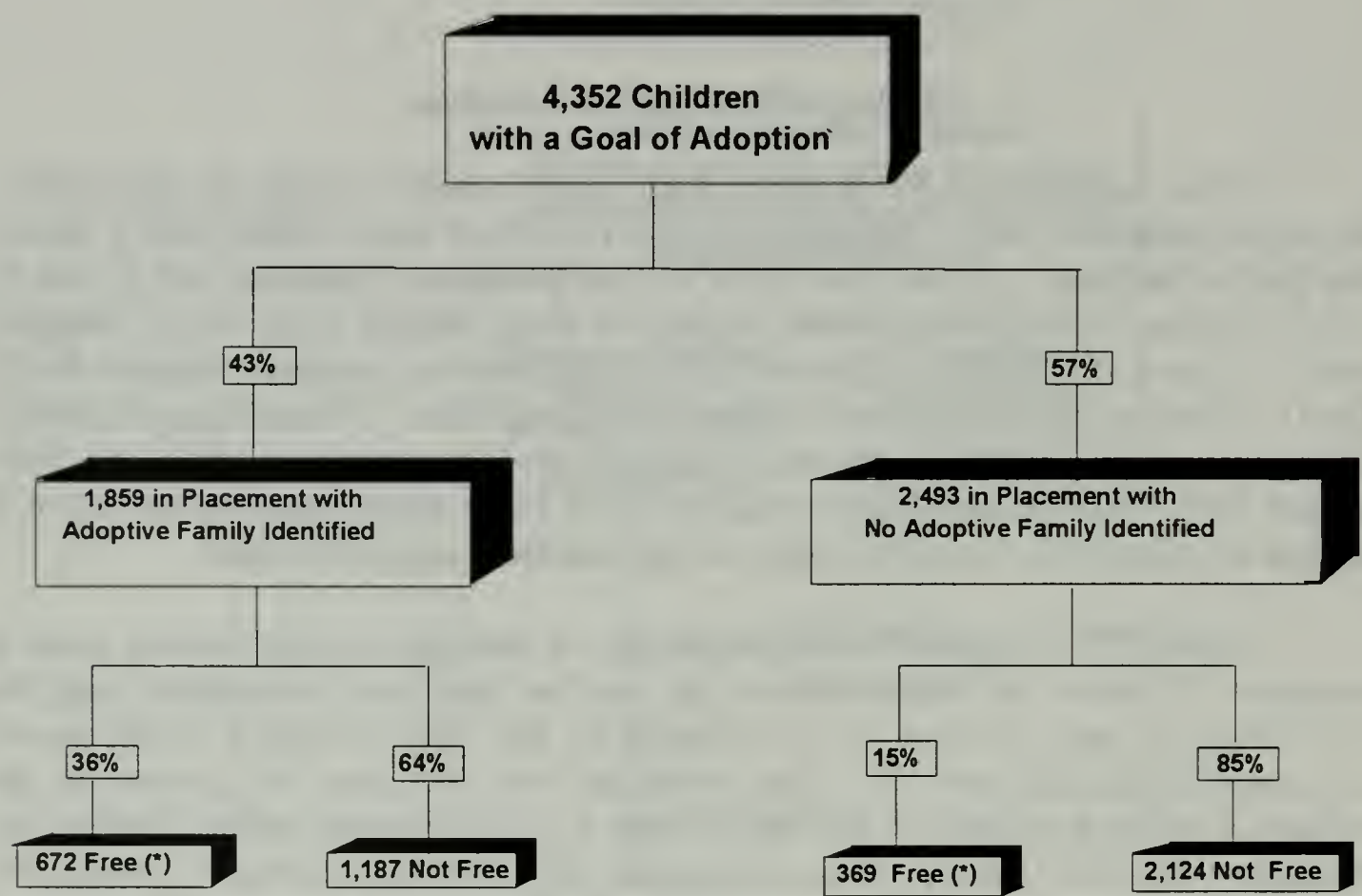
Chapter 303 is expected to be a major asset in reducing the time children spend in placement. However, the effectiveness of the new law could not be evaluated using the FY'95 adoption data. On June 30, 1995 (end of FY'95), DSS was still in the process of fully implementing Chapter 303. This transition from the usual 210 process to the application of 303 is reflected in the chart on page 17. The resulting analysis showed that 44 children were freed through the use of Chapter 303. The small number of Chapter 303 adoptions was due to the relatively short time the law has been in existence. Subsequent reports will continue to focus on Chapter 303 as well as monitor the other ways children are legally freed for adoption.

² From “Update on Chapter 303: Implementing new law requires great thought and care,” an article appearing in “Kids Our Common Wealth,” Vol. 3-Num. 3 (May 1993)--a DSS publication.

From the beginning to the end of FY'95, the number of children with a goal of adoption went from 4,522 to 4,352. The 1,102 children adopted in FY'95 were offset by approximately 1,400 new children entering the adoption system.³ To ensure that these children do not remain in placement for an extended period of time, DSS will need continued support in order to provide sufficient resources to duplicate or surpass the number of adoptions achieved in FY'95.

Continued efforts by DSS to find permanent homes and finalize adoptions are expected to alter the diagram below. By July 1996, many of the “freed” children will have been adopted or matched to approved families. Children classified as “free” or “not free” will include many new children who have entered the adoption system earlier because of DSS’ implementation of Chapter 303.

Figure 1. Location and Legal Status of Children in Placement with a Service Plan Goal of Adoption (July 1995)



(*) Free = legally free for adoption

³ It should be noted that some children leave the adoption system through a change in their service plan goal--guardianship, independent living, or long-term substitute care.

ADOPTED CHILDREN

During FY'95, DSS finalized adoptions for 1,102 children. This is the highest number of adoptions completed in the history of the Department. Adoption counts for the past 16 years are presented below (Fig. 2 and Table 1).

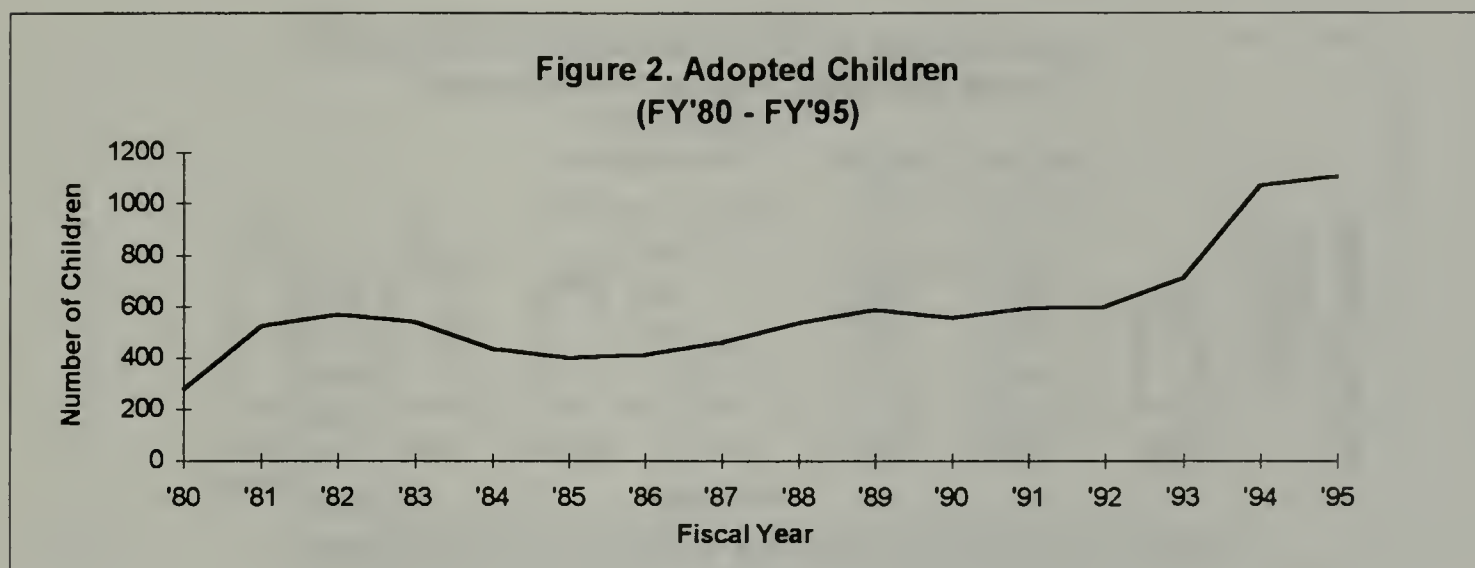


Table 1. Children Adopted (FY'80 - FY'95)

Fiscal Year	Adoptions	Annual Change
	No.	%
1980	279	—
1981	523	87%
1982	570	9%
1983	539	-5%
1984	435	-19%
1985	400	-8%
1986	412	3%
1987	460	12%
1988	536	17%
1989	589	10%
1990	554	-6%
1991	595	7%
1992	599	1%
1993	709	18%
1994	1,068	51%
1995	1,102	3%

NOTE: FY'80 adoptions were completed by the Massachusetts Department of Public Welfare.

DSS staff completed 869 adoptions in FY'95. Contracted agencies were responsible for 233 adoptions. Geographically, the Boston and Southeastern DSS Regions completed the highest numbers of adoptions, 222 and 184, respectively (Fig. 3). Among DSS area offices, the William Warren Center (71), Springfield (60), Worcester (58), Fields Corner (55), and New Bedford (53) finalized the most adoptions (Table 2).

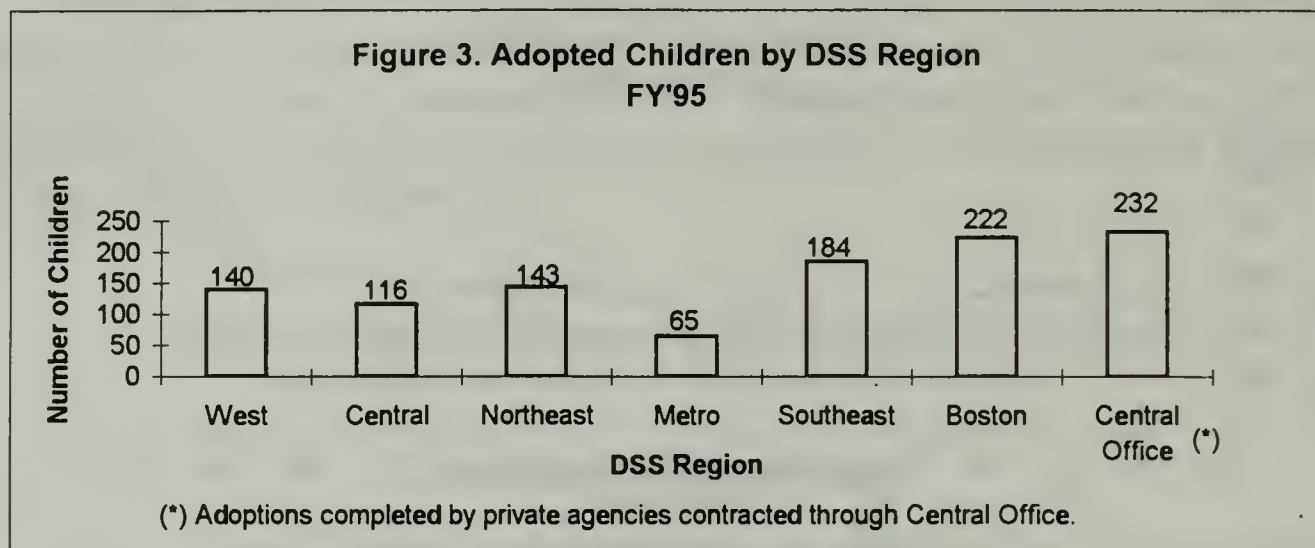


Table 2. DSS Area Office Adoptions, FY'95

DSS Area Offices	Adoptions No.	DSS Area Offices	Adoptions No.
Pittsfield	20	Waltham	10
Greenfield/Northampton	25	Quincy/Coastal	4
Holyoke/Westfield	35	Attleboro	6
Springfield	60	Taunton	12
Fitchburg/Gardner	37	Brockton	44
South Central/Blackstone Valley	21	Fall River	38
Worcester	58	New Bedford	53
Lowell	26	Plymouth/Cape & Islands	31
Lawrence	38	Morton Street	39
Haverhill	26	Allston/Brighton	21
Cape Ann	13	William Warren Center	71
Lynn	40	Fields Corner	55
Malden	17	Harbor	36
Framingham	12	Contracted Agencies	233
Cambridge/Somerville	21		

Table 3A presents a racial/ethnic comparison of the number of adoptions during FY'95 relative to the number of children in placement with a goal of adoption at the beginning of FY'95. The statewide adoption rate for white children was 26%; adoption rates for black children and Hispanic children were 24% and 21%, respectively. For all children, the highest adoption rates were attained by the Southeastern (28%) and Central (27%) Regions (Table 3B). Boston achieved an adoption rate of 21% despite having the largest number of children with a goal of adoption (Table 3B).

Table 3A. Statewide Adoption Rates, FY'95

	All Children		
	In Placement		
	w/Adoption Goal at Start of FY'95	Adopted in FY'95	Adoption Rate (*)
	(No.)	(No.)	(%)
White	2,075	545	26%
Black	1,405	344	24%
Hispanic	754	156	21%
Asian	45	10	22%
Other	148	30	20%
Unspecified	95	17	----
State	4,522	1,102	24%

(*) Adoption Rate = (number of children adopted during year) / (number of children with a goal of adoption at start of year) X 100%

NOTE: Children are individuals under 18 years old.

Table 3B. Regional Adoption Rates, FY'95

DSS Region	All Children		
	In Placement		
	w/Adoption Goal at Start of FY'95	Adopted in FY'95	Adoption Rate (*)
	(No.)	(No.)	(%)
West	742	140	19%
Central	436	116	27%
Northeast	675	143	21%
Metro	403	65	16%
Southeast	650	184	28%
Boston	1,066	222	21%
Central Office	550	232	42%
State	4,522	1,102	24%

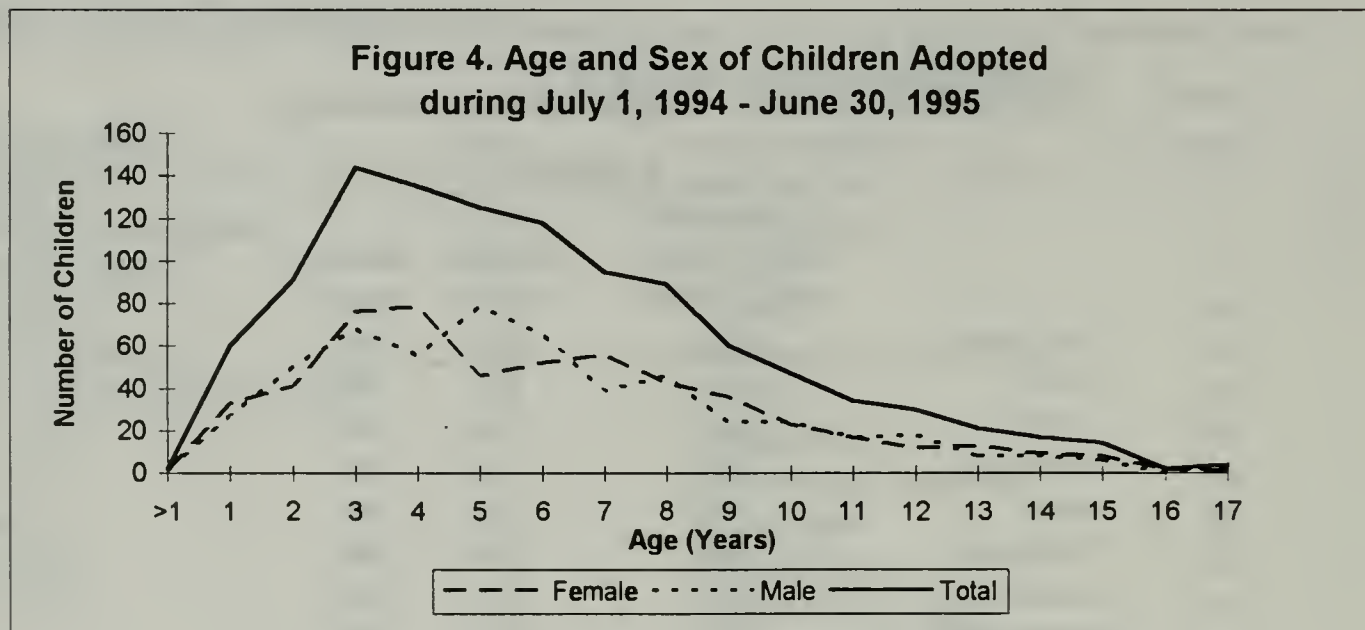
Sex and Age

Fifty percent of the adopted children were girls and 49% were boys (Table 4). At the time of data compilation, gender was unspecified for 1% of the children. The largest numbers of adopted children were between the ages of 3 and 6 years (Fig. 4). Adolescents accounted for only 8% of all adoptions (Table 4). The median age of all adopted children was 5 years (5 years for black and 6 years for both white and Hispanic children). Compared to FY'94, there was a 3% drop in 9-11 year olds, a 3% decline in 12-17 year olds, and a gain of 4% in 6-8 year olds.

Table 4. Adopted Children: Age and Sex, FY'95

Age (yrs)	Sex						Total	
	Female		Male		Unspecified			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
0 - 2	75	49%	78	51%	0	---	153	14%
3 - 5	201	49%	203	49%	7	2%	411	37%
6 - 8	151	49%	151	49%	5	2%	307	28%
9 - 11	76	54%	65	46%	1	1%	142	13%
12 - 17	45	51%	43	49%	0	---	88	8%
18 and Older	0	---	1	100%	0	---	1	*
Total	548	50%	541	49%	13	1%	1,102	100%

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off



Regional comparisons of the age distributions of adopted children showed a shift towards younger children in the Boston Region, and conversely, a shift towards older children in the Western and Central Regions (Table 5). This tendency is particularly noticeable when comparing the regional proportions of children under 6 years old. Contracted agency (Central Office) adoptions were notable for their higher proportions of children 9-11 and 12-17 years old (Table 5).

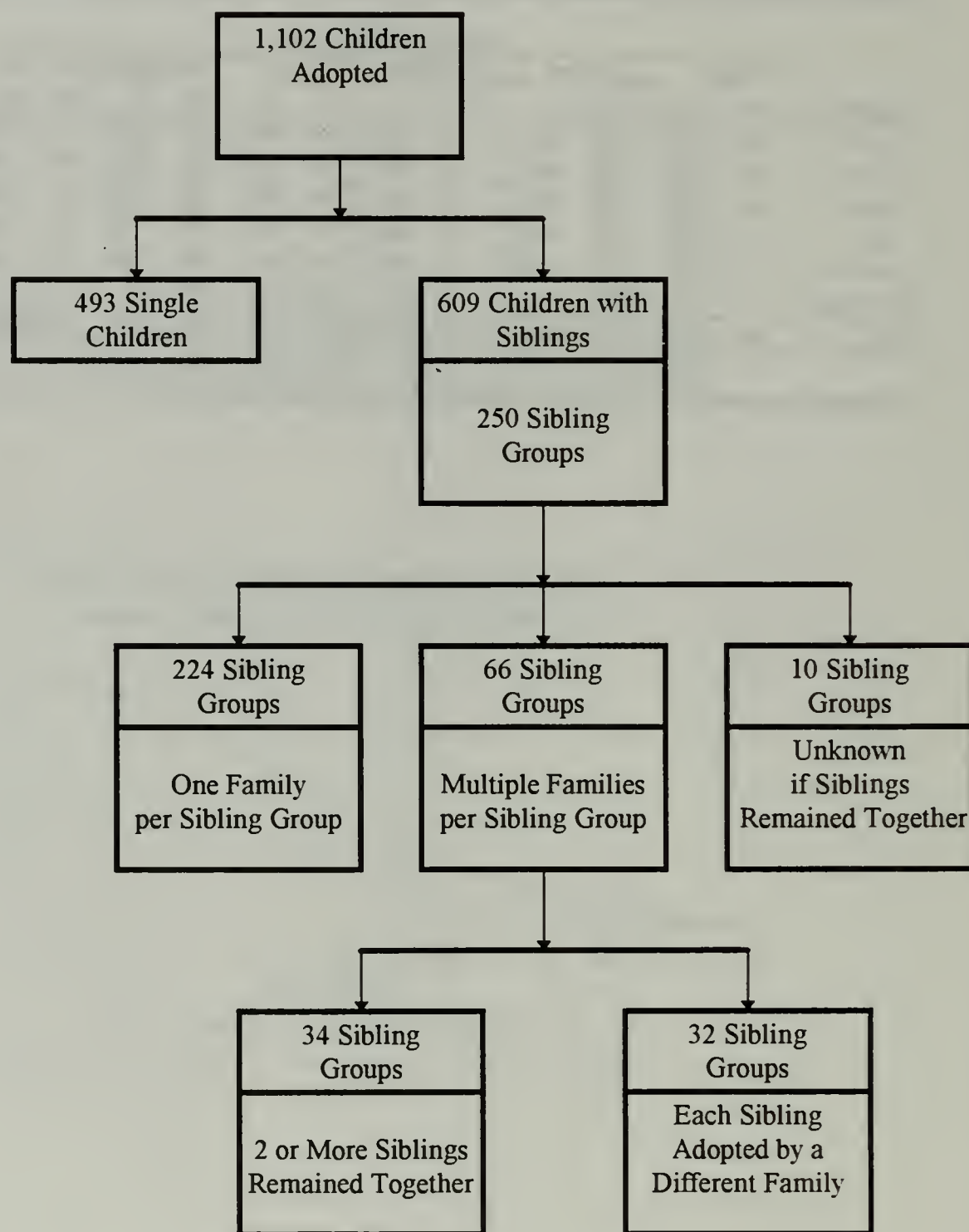
Table 5. Adopted Children: DSS Region and Age, FY'95

Age (Yrs)	DSS Geographic Region												Central Office (*)		Total	
	West		Central		Northeast		Metro		Southeast		Boston		No	%	No.	%
0 - 2	15	11%	14	12%	23	16%	12	18%	37	20%	41	18%	11	5%	153	14%
3 - 5	54	39%	41	35%	58	41%	23	35%	66	36%	98	44%	71	31%	411	37%
6 - 8	40	29%	40	34%	32	22%	20	31%	52	28%	49	22%	74	32%	307	28%
9 - 11	18	13%	17	15%	22	15%	7	11%	15	8%	22	10%	41	18%	142	13%
12 - 17	13	9%	4	3%	8	6%	3	5%	14	8%	12	5%	34	15%	88	8%
18 or Older	0	---	0	---	0	---	0	---	0	---	0	---	1	*	1	*
Total	140	100%	116	100%	143	100%	65	100%	184	100%	222	100%	232	100%	1,102	100%

(*) Adoptions completed by private agencies contracted through Central Office.

Sibling Group Adoptions

The 1,102 adoptions were comprised of 609 (55%) children from 250 sibling groups (see chart below). In 90% (224) of the sibling groups, all the siblings were adopted by a single family. Sibling group size was mostly 2 or 3 children. The exceptions were 5 families who adopted 4 siblings and 1 family who adopted 6. In 66 other sibling groups, the children were split among 2 or more families. However, in 52% of these sibling groups, two or more siblings remained together. DSS makes every effort to keep sibling groups intact. An adoption subsidy may be provided to families adopting sibling groups (includes half-siblings) (see subsidies and special needs on pages 31 and 32).



Language and Race/Ethnicity

English was identified as the preferred language for 89% (979) of all adopted children. Sixty-five children spoke Spanish. Other identified languages were: Khmer Cambodian (6 children), Haitian Creole (3), and Portuguese (1). The language of five children was recorded as "other." A preferred language was not specified for 43 children; however, it is presumed to be English.

The racial/ethnic categories of adopted children were: 49% white, 31% black, 14% Hispanic, and 1% Asian (Table 6). The ethnicities of the remaining 5% were unspecified. Regionally, the proportion of white adoptions ranged from 20% in Boston to 68% in Central, Metro, and the Southeast (Table 6). Hispanic adoptions were most prominent in the Western and Northeastern Regions.

Table 6. Adoptive Children: DSS Region and Race/Ethnicity, FY'95

Race/Ethnicity	DSS Region												Central Office (*)		Total	
	West		Central		Northeast		Metro		Southeast		Boston		No.	%	N	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	N	%	No.	%				
White	70	50%	79	68%	96	67%	44	68%	126	68%	45	20%	85	37%	545	49%
Black	28	20%	13	11%	8	6%	16	25%	28	15%	154	69%	97	42%	344	31%
Hispanic	32	23%	22	19%	33	23%	3	5%	16	9%	19	9%	31	13%	156	14%
Asian/Pacific Islander	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1%	8	—	10	1%
Other	4	3%	—	—	6	4%	2	3%	12	7%	—	—	6	3%	30	3%
Unspecified	6	4%	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	1%	2	1%	5	2%	17	2%
Total	140	100%	116	100%	143	100%	65	100%	184	100%	222	100%	232	100%	1,102	100%

White includes Portuguese.

Black includes Cape Verdean.

(*) Adoptions completed by private agencies contracted through Central Office.

From FY'94 to FY'95, black adoptions rose 2% (337 to 344) while Hispanic adoptions grew by 33% (117 to 156) (Table 7 on next page). After an 80% increase from FY'93 to FY'94, the number of black adoptions has leveled-off (Fig. 5, Table 7). In contrast, this is the second year that Hispanic adoptions have risen 33% (Fig. 5, Table 7).

Since FY'85, the proportion of black children adopted has increased from 10% to 31% (Table 7). The growth in the proportion of Hispanic adoptions has not been as dramatic--8% to 14%. During this same period, white adoptions went from 74% to 49% of the total.

Table 7. Adopted Children: Ethnicity/Race, FY'83 - FY'95

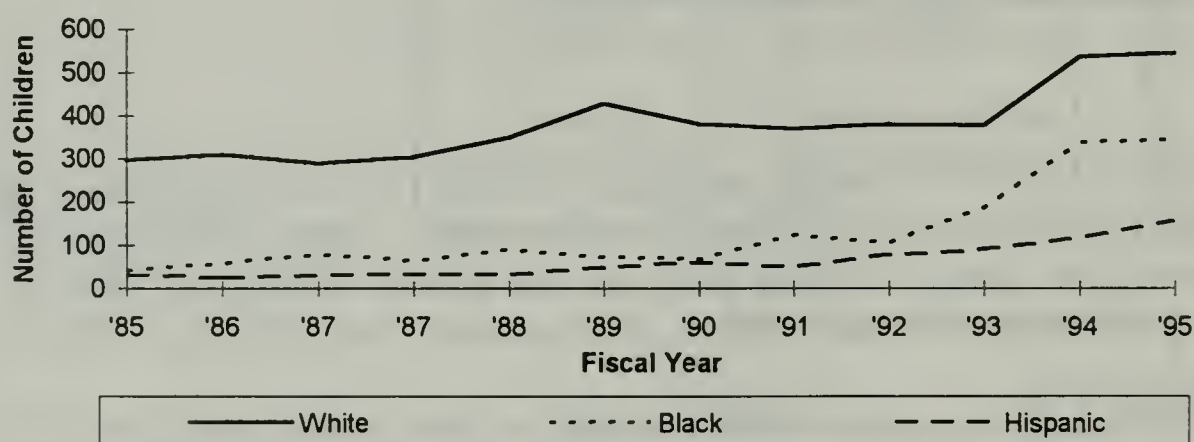
Fiscal Year	Ethnicity/Race										Total No. Source (1)	
	White		Black		Hispanic		Other		Unspecified			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
1985	297	74%	41	10%	32	8%	24	6%	6	2%	400	Log
1986	309	75%	58	14%	25	6%	20	5%	0	0%	412	Log
1987	289	66%	79	18%	31	7%	42	10%	0	0%	441	Log
1987	304	66%	65	14%	32	7%	44	10%	15	3%	460	ASSIST
1988	350	65%	90	17%	33	6%	53	10%	10	2%	536	ASSIST
1989	428	73%	72	12%	49	8%	29	5%	11	2%	589	ASSIST
1990	382	69%	68	12%	61	11%	31	6%	12	2%	554	ASSIST
1991	369	62%	124	21%	50	8%	37	6%	15	3%	595	ASSIST
1992	381	64%	106	18%	77	13%	22	4%	13	2%	599	ASSIST
1993	377	53%	187	26%	88	12%	41	6%	16	2%	709	ASSIST
1994	536	50%	337	32%	117	11%	41	4%	37	3%	1,068	ASSIST
1995	545	49%	344	31%	156	14%	40	4%	17	2%	1,102	ASSIST

NOTE: Relative percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding-off.

(1) Log = Manual Log Tabulations

ASSIST = Statistics generated from DSS database.

**Figure 5. Adopted Children by Ethnicity/Race
(FY'85 - FY'95)**



ADOPTIVE PARENT PROFILE

Trans-Racial Adoptions

There were 156 (14%) trans-racial adoptions in FY'95 (Table 8).⁴ Fifty-two percent of these adoptions involved black children (Table 9). The race/ethnicity of the remaining children was: Hispanic (30%), white (13%), and Asian (5%). White families adopted 64 black children, 33 Hispanic, and 4 Asian children (Table 9). In most trans-racial adoptions, the children were adopted by relatives and foster parents with whom they had been in placement (108 by foster parents, 23 kinship vs. 23 recruited and 2 unspecified).

Table 8. Trans-Racial Adoption and Child's Ethnicity/Race, FY'95

Ethnicity/Race	Trans-Racial Adoption						Total No.
	Yes		No		Unspecified		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
White	20	4%	496	91%	29	5%	545
Black	81	24%	228	66%	35	10%	344
Hispanic	47	30%	96	62%	13	8%	156
Asian/Pacific Islander	8	80%	2	20%	0	—	10
Other	0	—	0	—	30	100%	30
Unspecified	0	—	0	—	17	100%	17
Total	156	14%	822	75%	124	11%	1,102

White includes Portuguese.

Black includes Cape Verdean.

Table 9. Trans-Racial Adoptions: Child and Adoptive Parent Ethnicity/Race, FY'95

Child Ethnicity/Race	Adoptive Parent(s) Ethnicity/Race					Total
	White	Black	Hispanic	Native American	White & Black	
White	--	8	11	1	--	20
Black	64	--	17	--	--	81
Hispanic	33	12	--	--	2	47
Asian/Pacific Islander	4	--	--	--	4	8
Total	101	20	28	1	6	156

White includes Portuguese.

Black includes Cape Verdean.

⁴ In FY'94, there were 146 trans-racial adoptions.

Marital Status, Age and Sex

Sixty-four percent (701) of the 1,102 children were adopted by a married couple (Table 10). The remaining children were adopted by unmarried individuals: 14% never married, 14% divorced, 6% separated, and 3% widowed. Forty-one percent of the adoptive parents were 40-49 years old, 31% were 30-39 years old, and 21% were 50-59 years old (Table 11). The age distributions of female and male parents were similar (Table 11).

Table 10. Adoptive Parent Marital Status, FY'95

Marital Status	Adoption Count	
	No.	%
Married	701	64%
Separated	65	6%
Divorced	155	14%
Widowed	28	3%
Never Married	152	14%
Unspecified	1	*
Total	1,102	100%

* = Less than 1% after rounding-off.

Table 11. Age of Adoptive Parents at Time of Adoption Finalization, FY'95

Age Group (yrs)	Sex				Total	
	Female		Male			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
23 - 29	35	3%	10	2%	45	3%
30 - 39	320	31%	191	31%	511	31%
40 - 49	415	40%	252	41%	667	41%
50 - 59	217	21%	129	21%	346	21%
60 or Older	38	4%	35	6%	73	4%
Total	1,025	100%	617	100%	1,642	100%

NOTE: Table includes single parents and married couples. Age and/or gender information was not available for all adoptive parents.

Race/Ethnicity of Adoptive Parents and Type of Adoptive Home

Forty-eight percent (529) of the FY'95 adoptions were by unrelated foster parents (Table 12). Relatives accounted for 25% while families recruited as an adoptive resource provided homes to 25% of the children. Private agencies contracted through Central Office completed the highest number of recruited family adoptions (Table 12).

Table 12. Type of Adoptive Home by DSS Region, FY'95

DSS Region	Type of Adoptive Home								Total No.
	Foster Family		Kinship		Recruited Family		Unspecified		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
West	94	67%	32	23%	13	9%	1	1%	140
Central	41	35%	31	27%	35	30%	9	8%	116
Northeast	76	53%	26	18%	37	26%	4	3%	143
Metro	29	45%	19	29%	16	25%	1	2%	65
Southeast	76	41%	41	22%	66	36%	1	1%	184
Boston	122	55%	85	38%	9	4%	6	3%	222
Central Office	91	39%	43	19%	97	42%	1	*	232
Total	529	48%	277	25%	273	25%	23	2%	1,102

Adoptions by relatives (kinship) were most prominent in the Boston Region (Table 12). Compared to white children, there was a greater tendency for black and Hispanic children to be adopted by relatives (Table 13). White children were more likely to be adopted by recruited parents.

Table 13. Child's Ethnicity/Race by Type of Adoptive Home, FY'95

Ethnicity/Race	Type of Adoptive Home								Total No.
	Foster Family		Kinship		Recruited Family		Unspecified		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
White	239	44%	110	20%	184	34%	12	2%	545
Black	184	53%	108	31%	46	13%	6	2%	344
Hispanic	83	53%	46	29%	23	15%	4	3%	156
Asian/Pacific Islander	8	80%	2	20%	0	---	0	---	10
Other	6	20%	9	30%	14	47%	1	3%	30
Unspecified	9	53%	2	12%	6	35%	0	---	17
Total	529	48%	277	25%	273	25%	23	2%	1,102

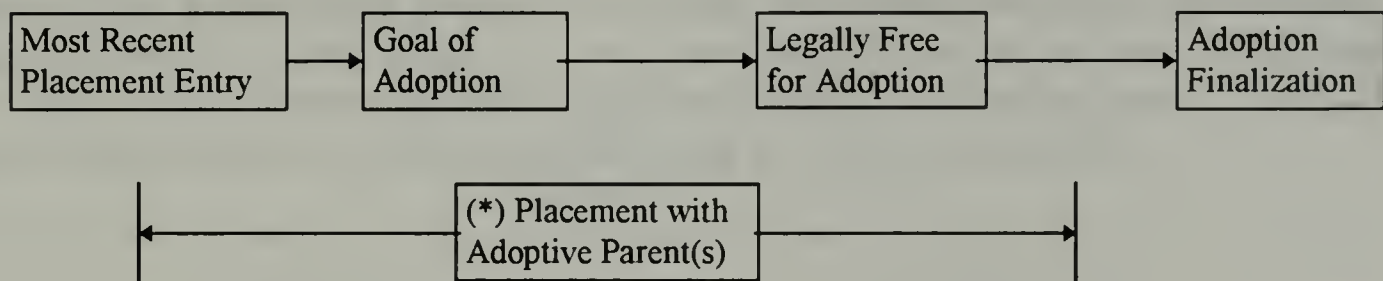
White includes Portuguese.

Black includes Cape Verdean.

STAGES IN THE ADOPTION PROCESS

Continuous Time in Placement (Most Recent Placement Entry to Leaving for Adoption)

Continuous time in placement begins with a child's most recent entrance to placement and ends when the child leaves placement for adoption. Children adopted in FY'95 spent 3.8 years (median)⁵ in placement (Table 14). The chart below shows various stages in the adoption process. Time (median) intervals between stages are presented in Table 14.



(*) Depending on the case, a child could be placed with a potential adoptive parent at any time in the adoption process.

TABLE 14. Continuous Time Spent in Various Stages of the Adoption Process, FY'95

Adoption Process		Median Continuous Time in Placement			
		All Children (yrs)	White Children (yrs)	Black Children (yrs)	Hispanic Children (yrs)
Beginning Stage	Ending Stage				
Most Recent Placement Entry	Placement with Adoptive Parent	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.2
Most Recent Placement Entry	Goal of Adoption	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.2
Goal of Adoption	Free for Adoption	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.5
Free for Adoption	Adoption Finalization	0.8	0.6	1.0	0.8
Most Recent Placement Entry	Adoption Finalization	3.8	3.6	4.1	4.1

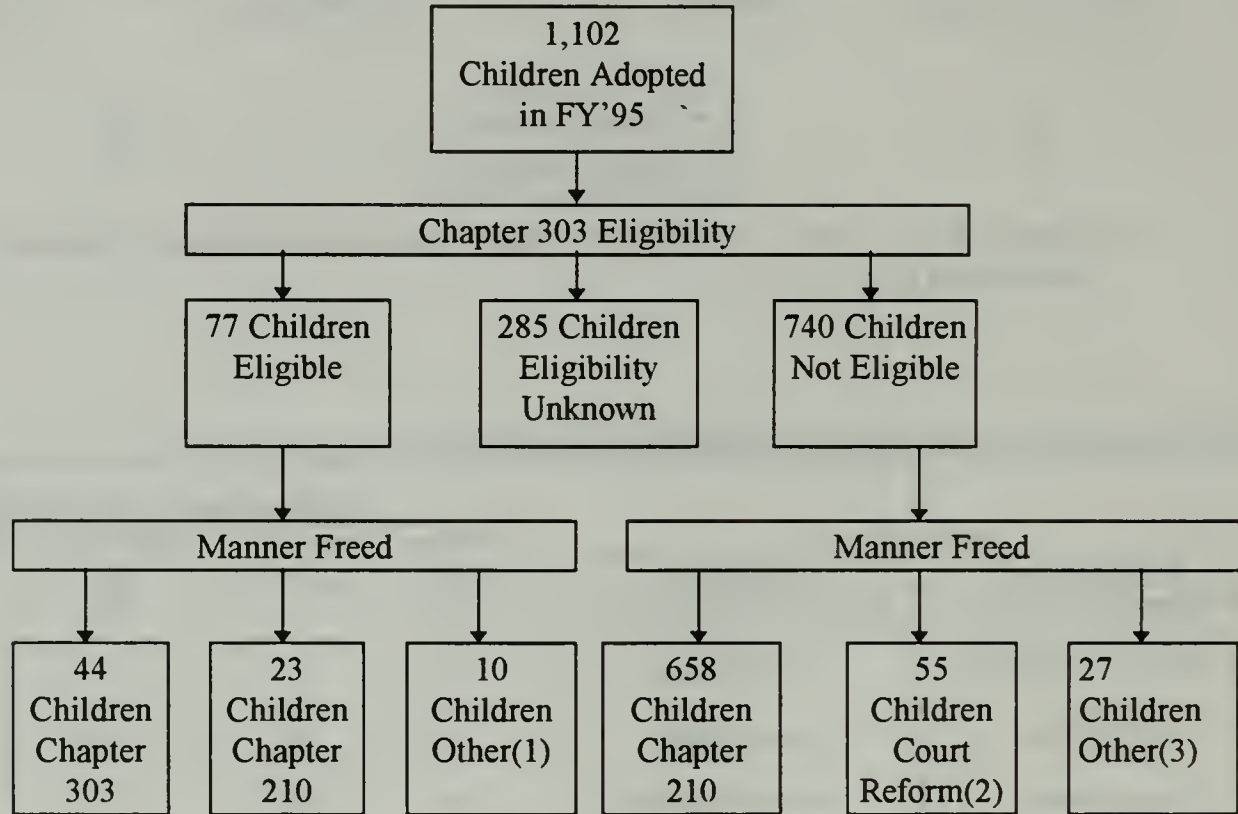
Note: All Children Includes Asian, Other, and Unspecified race/ethnicity.

The summation of median values determined for each stage does not equal the overall median value due to the distribution of the data within stages.

⁵The median represents the middle value of a population. In other words, half of the children have been in placement for a period of time greater than the median value and half have been in placement for a period less than the median value.

The length of time from placement entry to placement with an adoptive parent was approximately 6 months (Table 14). In general, children were already in placement with the family that adopted them when adoption was chosen as their permanent plan. In fact, for 316 (29%) children, their eventual adoptive family was their first placement. The elapsed time between entering placement and setting a permanency goal of adoption was 1.1 years (median) (Table 14). After establishing a goal of adoption, the median time to legally free the children was 1.6 years. It took almost 10 months to finalize the adoption.⁶ These statistics point out critical needs: expediting court processes and finding adoptive homes, especially for minority children.

Over time, the implementation of Chapter 303 by DSS should result in earlier development of permanency plans and more expeditious movement of cases through the courts. DSS social workers are making permanency determinations for children according to Chapter 303; however, resource limitations in the court system still delay adoption proceedings. It is still too early to evaluate the effectiveness of Chapter 303. In FY'95, only 77 adoption cases met the Chapter 303 criteria for terminating parental rights during a care and protection proceeding (chart below, Appendix Tables A1 and A2). DSS lawyers freed 23 of these children via the usual 210 process and 44 using the Chapter 303 law.



(1) 7 voluntary surrenders and 3 unspecified
(2) court reform allowed filing of 210 petition in juvenile and district courts (previously limited to probate courts)
(3) 18 voluntary surrenders, 4 deceased parents, and 5 unspecified

⁶ The period from freeing a child to finalizing the child's adoption includes the time to find an adoptive home and the time a child placed with an adoptive family must wait before the adoption is legalized. The waiting period ("trial period") imposed by the court is dependent on how long the child has been living with the adoptive family. For a "new" recruited home the legalization period is 6 months. There is no trial period if the child has been in foster care with the adoptive family for at least six months.

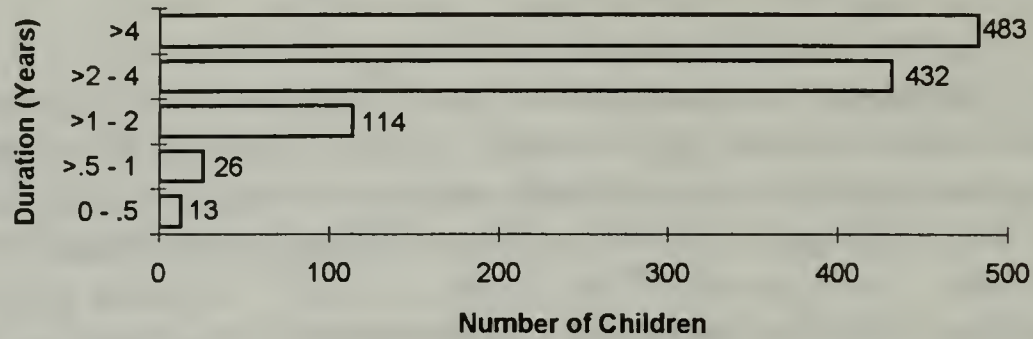
Children in placement for more than two years accounted for 83% of the finalized adoptions in FY'95 (Table 15 and Fig. 6 on next page). Compared to previous years, race/ethnicity was less of a factor in the length of stay in substitute care. Eighty-one percent of white, 84% of Hispanic, and 86% of black children were in placement for more than two years prior to adoption in FY'95 (Table 15, Fig. 7 on next page). These percentages were lower than last year--84% for white, 91% for Hispanic, and 93% for black children. Median length of stay from placement entry to adoption finalization was 3.6 years for white and 4.1 years for both Hispanic and black children (Table 14).

Compared to white children, it took less time to place Hispanic and black children with their eventual adoptive parents (Table 14). This is occurred because black and Hispanic children were more likely to be adopted by their foster parents (kinship or unrelated) than by recruited parents (Table 13). Compared to white and Hispanic children, it took 2-4 months longer to legally free black children for adoption (Table 14). Once freed, white children had their adoptions finalized in approximately 7 months whereas Hispanic and black children waited 10 and 12 months, respectively.

Table 15. Adopted Children: Continuous Time in Placement by Ethnicity/Race, FY'95

Continuous Time in Placement (Years)	Ethnicity/Race												Total	
	White		Black		Hispanic		Asian		Other		Unspecified			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
.5 or Less	6	1%	6	2%	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	6%	13	1%
>.5 to 1	14	3%	6	2%	5	3%	--	--	1	3%	--	--	26	2%
>1 to 1.5	26	5%	14	4%	6	4%	--	--	1	3%	--	--	47	4%
>1.5 to 2	43	8%	11	3%	11	7%	1	10%	1	3%	--	--	67	6%
>2 to 4	234	43%	118	34%	54	35%	8	80%	13	43%	5	29%	432	39%
>4	206	38%	177	51%	77	49%	1	10%	11	37%	11	65%	483	44%
Unavailable	16	3%	12	3%	3	2%	--	--	3	10%	--	--	34	3%
Total	545	100%	344	100%	156	100%	10	100%	30	100%	17	100%	1,102	100%

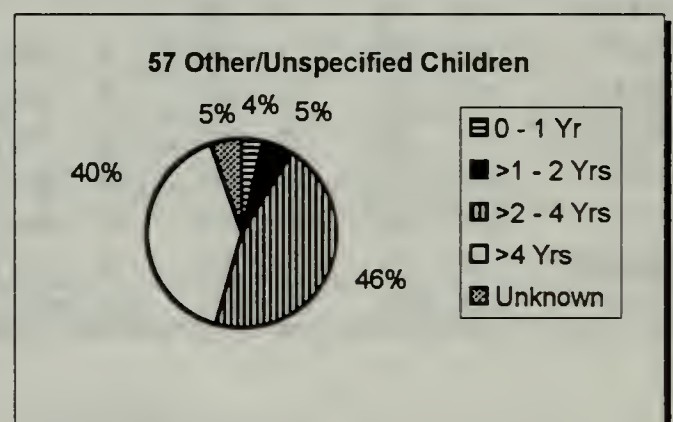
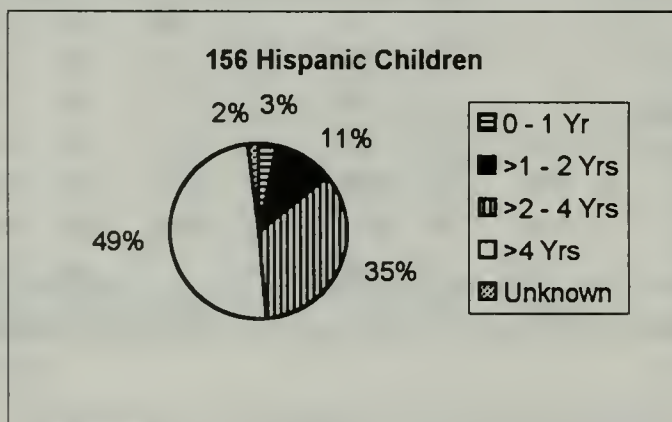
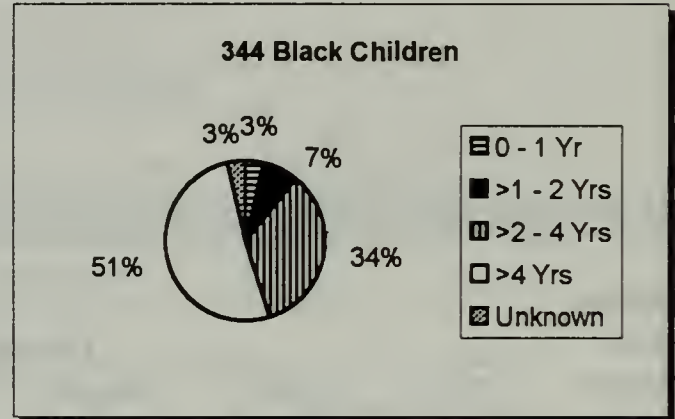
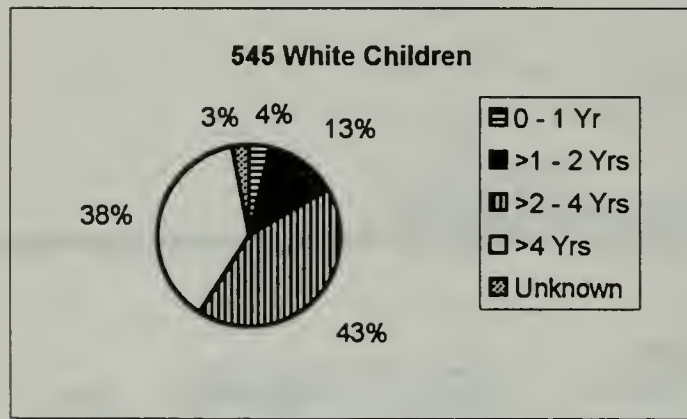
**Figure 6. Adopted Children:
Continuous Time in Placement, FY'95**



NOTE: Figure does not include 34 children for whom the time from placement entry to adoption could not be determined.

**Figure 7. Continuous Time From Most Recent Placement Entry
To Adoption Finalization, FY'95**

Ethnicity/Race of Adopted Children



NOTE: Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding-off.

From FY'87 to FY'93, the proportion of adopted children who have been in placement for more than 2 years increased while the proportion in placement for 2 years or less decreased (Table 16 and Fig. 8 on next page). Consequently, the median time in substitute care rose from 2.9 to 3.9 years (Fig. 9 on next page). This trend has begun to change; the proportion of children in placement for more than 2 years dropped from 90% in FY'93 to 83% in FY'95 (Table 16 and Fig. 8). The median length of stay for FY'95 adoptions was 3.8 years (Fig. 9).

At the start of FY'95, 65% of the 4,522 children in placement with a goal of adoption had been in care for more than two years. This proportion is down from 70% a year ago. The DSS adoption initiative has been focused on this backlog of children waiting for adoption. Therefore, it is not surprising that the median length of stay for children adopted in FY'95 remained high. The large number of children who were adopted after spending several years in placement is a reflection of DSS' success in securing adoptions for long-term children.

Table 16. Continuous Time in Placement Prior to Leaving for Adoption, FY'83 - FY'95

Fiscal Year	Continuous Time in Placement (yrs)														Total No.
	.5 or Less		>.5 to 1		>1 to 1.5		>1.5 to 2		>2 to 4		>4		Unavailable		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
1987	16	3%	39	8%	66	14%	36	8%	126	27%	145	32%	32	7%	460
1988	21	4%	26	5%	39	7%	73	14%	191	36%	159	30%	27	5%	536
1989	8	1%	37	6%	44	7%	41	7%	272	46%	170	29%	17	3%	589
1990	16	3%	22	4%	35	6%	49	9%	247	45%	168	30%	17	3%	554
1991	10	2%	15	3%	33	6%	49	8%	268	45%	212	36%	8	1%	595
1992	9	2%	14	2%	25	4%	44	7%	285	48%	217	36%	5	1%	599
1993	9	1%	7	1%	17	2%	38	5%	311	44%	325	46%	2	*	709
1994	6	1%	14	1%	28	3%	45	4%	456	43%	480	45%	39	4%	1,068
1995	13	1%	26	2%	47	4%	67	6%	432	39%	483	44%	34	3%	1,102

NOTE: Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding-off.

(*) Less than 1% after rounding-off.

Figure 8. Continuous Time in Placement Prior to Leaving for Adoption FY'87 - FY'95

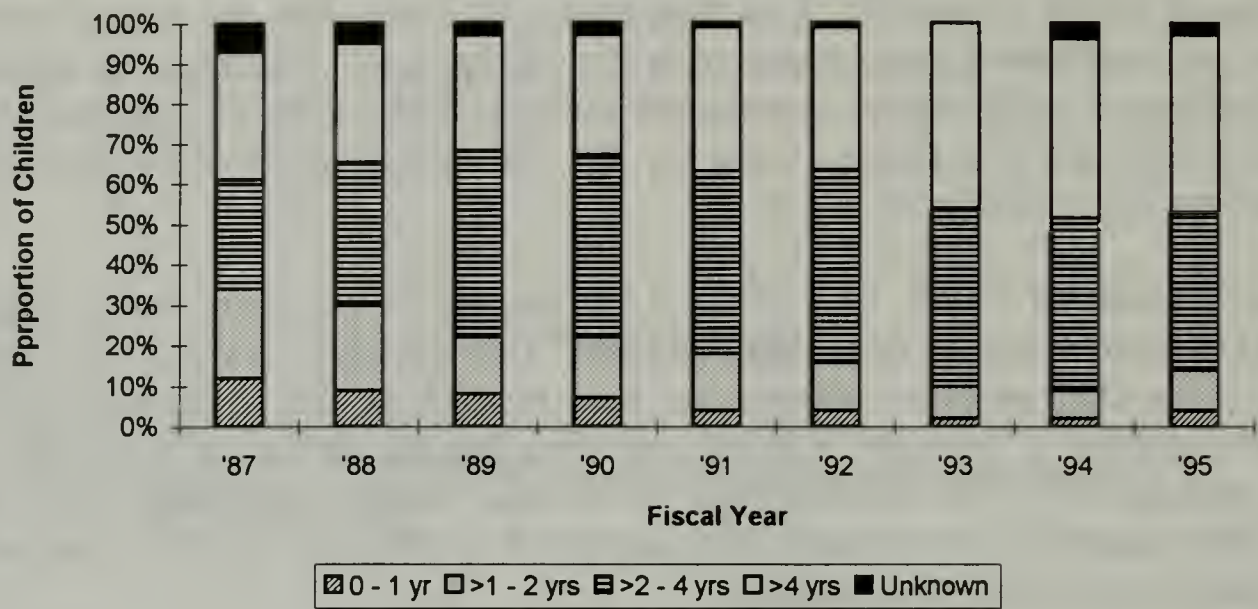
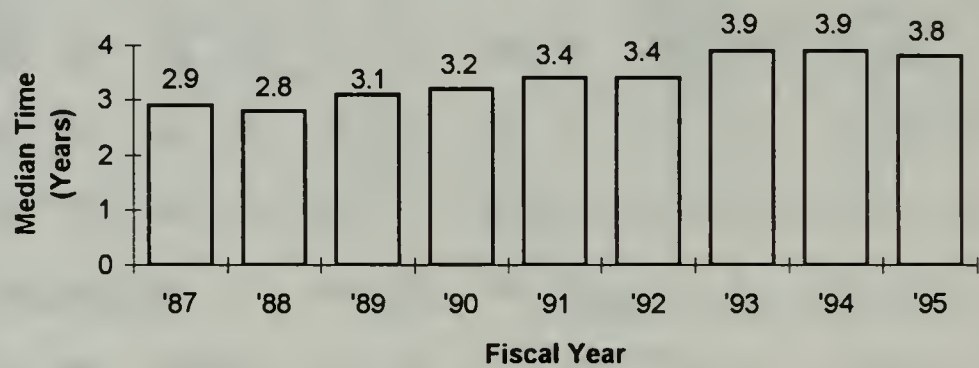


Figure 9. Continuous Time (Median) in Placement Prior to Adoption: FY'87 - FY'95



GUARDIANSHIP CHILDREN

Guardianship is a permanent plan designed to provide a stable, positive environment to children who cannot be returned home or adopted. To be considered for the program, a child must be at least 12 years old, or part of a sibling group where one sibling is at least 12 years old. Exceptions are made when a child has needs that make guardianship the best alternative available. All exceptions to the 12-year age limit must be authorized by the DSS Regional Director. In addition, the court may appoint a relative as the legal guardian of any age child. Another consideration not related to age is that a child must have been living with the potential guardian for at least one year. However, this requirement may be waived if the Department determines that it is in the best interest of the child.

During FY'95, 588 guardianships were finalized. This represents the highest number of guardianships granted since the program began in 1984 (Fig. 10 and Table 17). Guardianships were most prevalent in the Boston Region--204 children (Fig. 11). At the area office level, the William Warren Center achieved the most guardianships (62), followed by Morton Street (49), Springfield (41), and New Bedford (31) (Table 18). The annual rate of growth in guardianships was the largest since FY'91-92 (Table 17). The 588 guardianships in FY'95 represent a 46% increase over FY'94.

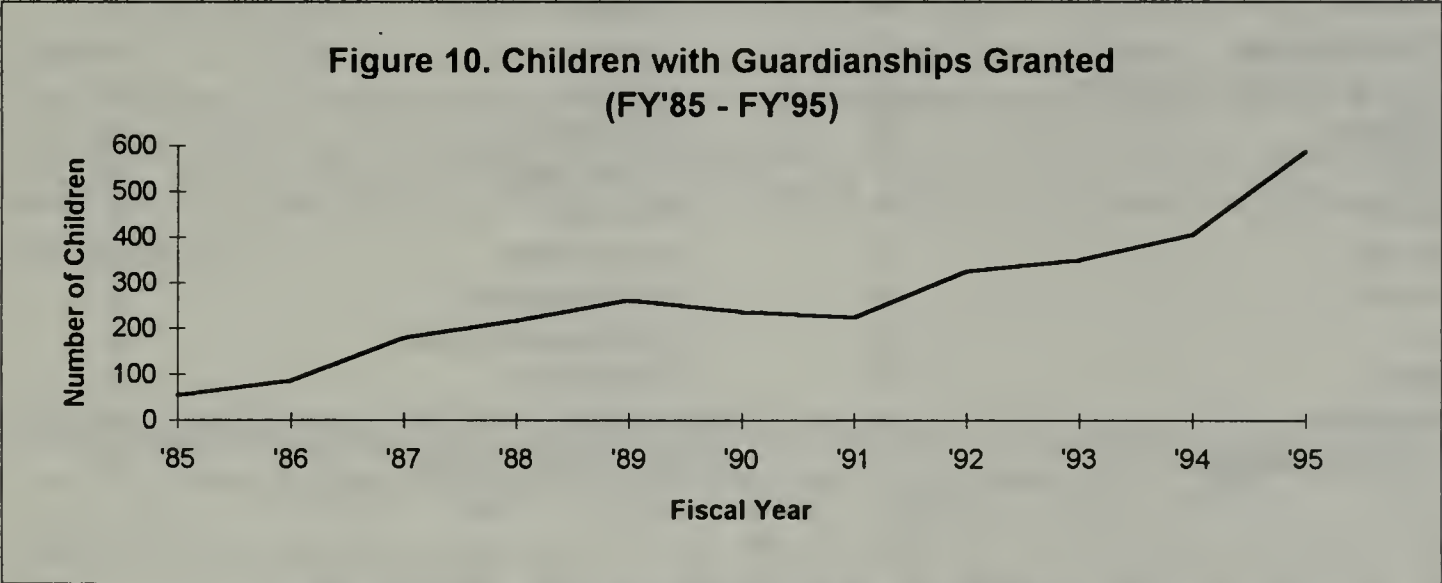


Table 17. Children with Guardianships Granted (FY'85 - FY'95)

Fiscal Year	Guardianships	Annual Change
	No.	%
1985	54	—
1986	86	59%
1987	180	109%
1988	216	20%
1989	262	21%
1990	237	-10%
1991	224	-5%
1992	325	45%
1993	350	8%
1994	404	24%
1995	588	46%

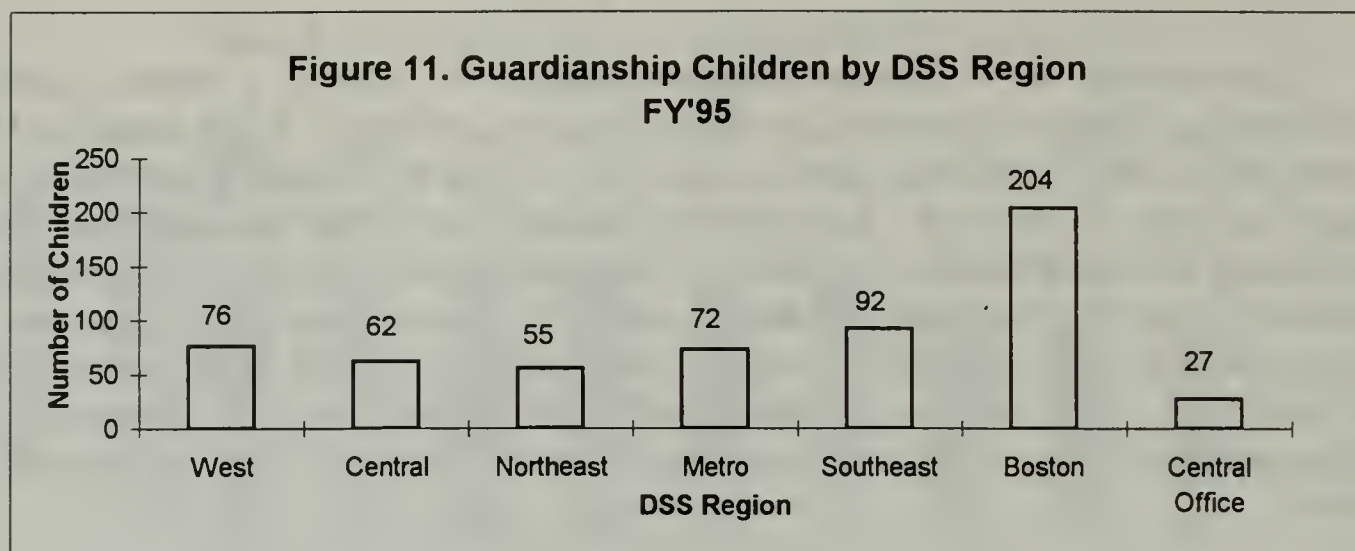


Table 18. DSS Area Office Guardianships, FY'95

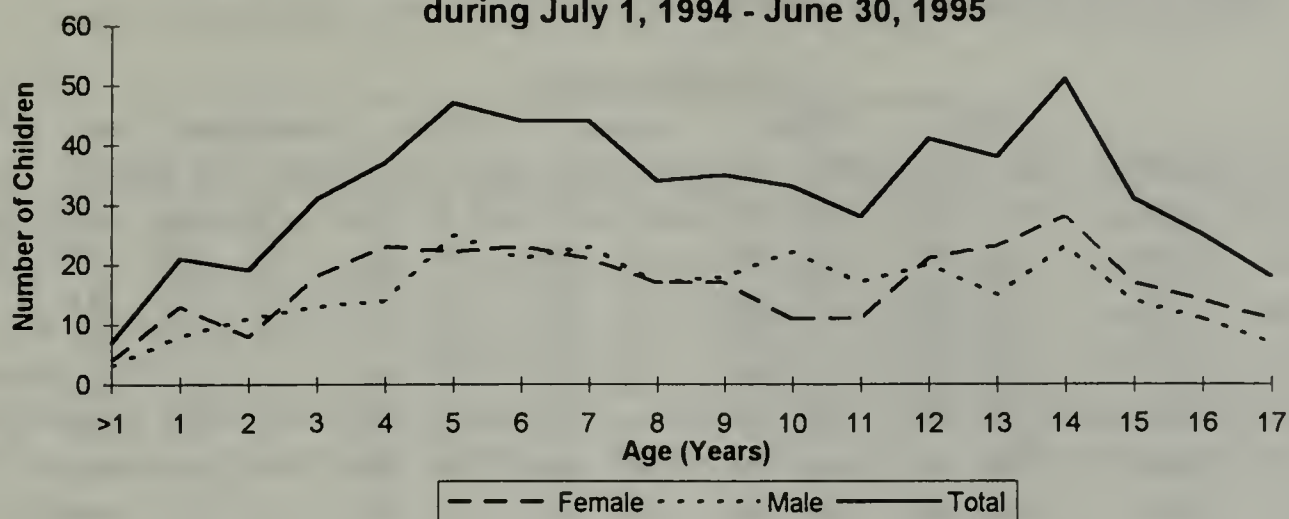
Guardianships		Guardianships	
DSS Area Offices	No.	DSS Area Offices	No.
Pittsfield	3	Waltham	11
Greenfield/Northampton	6	Quincy/Coastal	14
Holyoke/Westfield	25	Attleboro	7
Springfield	41	Taunton	4
Fitchburg/Gardner	13	Brockton	26
South Central/Blackstone Valley	20	Fall River	15
Worcester	28	New Bedford	31
Lowell	17	Cape & Islands	3
Lawrence	14	Plymouth	6
Haverhill	1	Morton Street	49
Cape Ann	6	Allston/Brighton	28
Lynn	17	William Warren Center	62
Malden	17	Fields Corner	26
Framingham	13	Harbor	29
Cambridge/Somerville	16	Contracted Agencies	40

Sex and Age

During FY'95, 302 girls and 282 boys received guardians (Fig.12).⁷ Sixty-five percent (381) of these children were under 12 years old. Most of the children who received guardianships despite being under 12 years old are included in the following two categories of children: 335 children from 135 sibling groups and/or 348 children residing with relatives where there is no age requirement for guardianship.

⁷ At the time of the ASSIST download, sex was unspecified for four children.

Figure 12. Age and Sex of Children with Guardianships Granted during July 1, 1994 - June 30, 1995



Race/Ethnicity

The Southeastern Region completed the highest number of guardianships for white children (57) (Table 19). Guardianships were finalized for 147 black children in the Boston Region. Guardianships for Hispanic children were most prevalent in the Western (15), Boston (14), and Northeastern (13) Regions. From FY'94 to FY'95, guardianships rose: 59% for white children, 54% for black children, and 5% for Hispanic children (Table 20 and Figure 13).

Table 19. Guardianship Children: DSS Region and Race/Ethnicity, FY'95

Ethnicity/Race	DSS Region												Central Office (*)		Total	
	West		Central		Northeast		Metro		Southeast		Boston		No.	%	N	%
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	N	%	No.	%				
White	26	34%	45	73%	32	58%	48	67%	57	62%	36	18%	8	30%	252	43%
Black	25	33%	3	5%	10	18%	16	22%	20	22%	147	72%	13	48%	234	40%
Hispanic	15	20%	10	16%	13	24%	1	1%	10	11%	14	7%	4	15%	67	11%
Other	4	5%	4	6%	--	--	3	4%	2	2%	4	2%	1	4%	18	3%
Unspecified	6	8%	--	--	--	--	4	6%	3	3%	3	1%	1	4%	17	3%
Total	76	100%	62	100%	55	100%	72	100%	92	100%	204	100%	27	100%	588	100%

(*) Guardianships completed by private agencies contracted through Central Office.

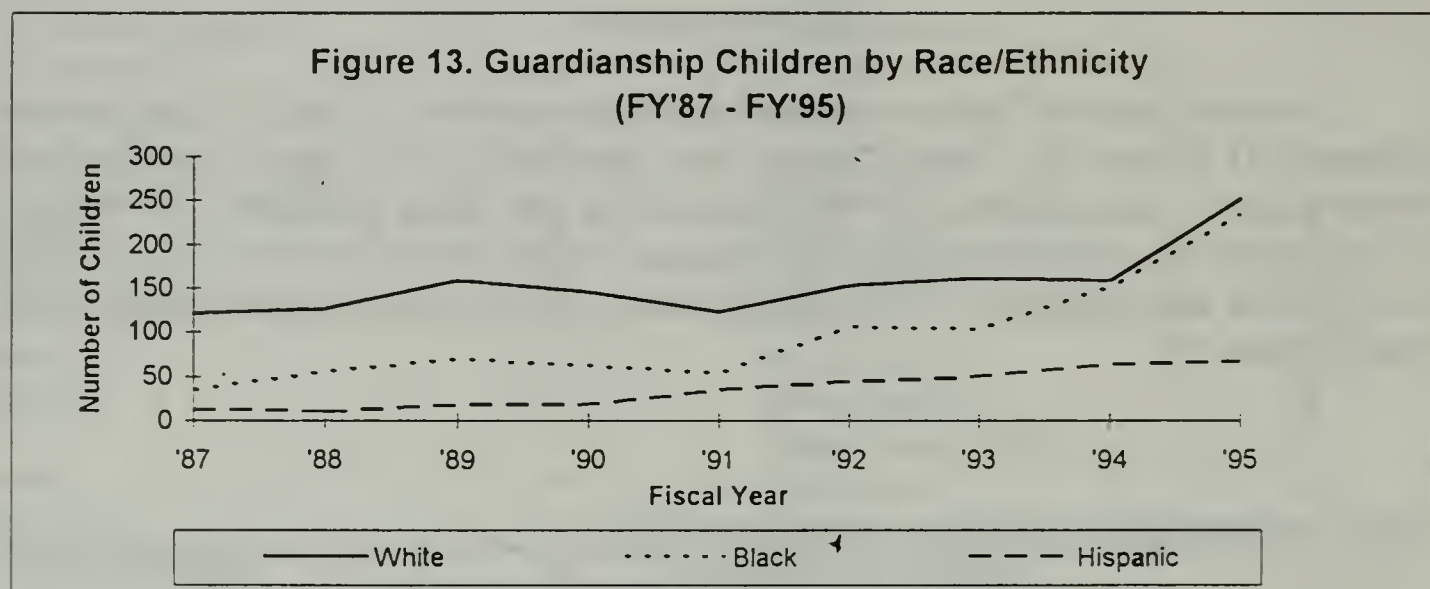
White includes Portuguese.

Black includes Cape Verdean.

Table 20. Guardianship Children: Ethnicity/Race, FY'87 - FY'95

Fiscal Year	Ethnicity/Race										Total No.
	White		Black		Hispanic		Other		Unspecified		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
1987	121	67%	35	19%	13	7%	6	3%	5	3%	180
1988	127	59%	55	25%	10	5%	16	7%	8	4%	216
1989	158	60%	69	26%	18	7%	15	6%	2	1%	262
1990	145	61%	62	26%	18	8%	9	4%	3	1%	237
1991	123	55%	53	24%	35	16%	9	4%	4	2%	224
1992	153	47%	106	33%	44	14%	18	6%	4	1%	325
1993	161	46%	103	29%	50	14%	24	7%	12	3%	350
1994	158	39%	152	38%	64	16%	18	4%	12	3%	404
1995	252	43%	234	40%	67	11%	18	3%	17	3%	588

NOTE: Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding-off.



Preferred Language

English was the preferred language of 89% (524) of the guardianship children. Of the remaining children, 26 were Spanish-speaking and 8 spoke other languages. Although another 30 children had no language specified, they were most likely English-speaking.

GUARDIAN PROFILE

Race/Ethnicity

Of the 588 children granted guardianships: 85% of the white children were placed with white guardians; 84% of the black children were placed with black guardians; and 75% of the Hispanic children were placed with Hispanic guardians (Table 21). Guardians of the remaining children were either a different race/ethnicity or were a multi-racial couple (Table 21). In a small number of cases, race/ethnicity information was not available for either the child or guardian. Approximately 59% of the guardianship children left placement to live with relatives; another 30% left to reside with unrelated foster parents.

Table 21. Race/Ethnicity of Guardianship Children and Guardians, FY'95

Child Ethnicity/Race	Guardian(s) Race/Ethnicity										Total
	White	Black	Hispanic	Native American	White & Black	White & Hispanic	White & Other	Black & Hispanic	Other	Unavailable	
White	213	12	3	1	5	--	1	--	2	15	252
Black	16	197	1	1	10	--	--	1	2	6	234
Hispanic	13	1	50	--	--	1	--	--	--	2	67
Asian	1	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	1	3
Native American	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2	--	2
Other	7	4	2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	13
Unavailable	8	3	6	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	17
Total	258	217	63	2	15	1	1	1	6	24	588

White includes Portuguese.
Black includes Cape Verdean.

Marital Status, Age and Sex

Half of the 588 guardianship children were placed with married couples (Table 22). The remaining children were placed with guardians who were: divorced (17%), separated (11%), never-married (11%), or widowed (7%). Thirty-three percent of the guardians were 50-59 years old, 28% were 40-49 years old, and 16% were 30-39 years old (Table 23 on next page).

Table 22. Guardian's Marital Status, FY'95

Marital Status	Guardianships	
	No.	%
Married	294	50%
Separated	66	11%
Divorced	99	17%
Widowed	42	7%
Never Married	63	11%
Unspecified	24	4%
Total	588	100%

Table 23. Age of Guardians at Granting of Guardianship, FY'95

Age Group (yrs)	Sex					
					Total	
	Female		Male			
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
21 - 29	30	5%	8	3%	38	5%
30 - 39	85	16%	47	16%	132	16%
40 - 49	163	30%	72	25%	235	28%
50 - 59	183	34%	94	33%	277	33%
60 - 69	77	963%	57	713%	134	16%
70 - 74	8	1%	8	3%	16	2%
Total	546	100%	286	100%	832	100%

NOTE: Table includes single individuals and married couples. Age and/or gender information was not available for all guardians.

STAGES IN THE GUARDIANSHIP PROCESS

Continuous Time in Placement (Most Recent Placement Entry to Leaving for Guardianship)

DSS regulations state that a child must reside in the same unrelated placement for at least one year to be eligible for the guardianship program. Children in placement with relatives (59% of FY'95 guardianships) do not have the same time requirements. Other exceptions to the one-year period must be authorized by the regional director.

Children who received guardianships during FY'95 spent a median time of 2.8 years from their most recent placement entry to the granting of a guardianship (Table 24). It did not take much time to place a child with his/her potential guardian (Table 24). The potential guardian's home was often the child's first placement location. Establishing a goal of guardianship consumed the most time--a median 2.1 years (Table 24). This is to be expected since a goal of guardianship is only considered when the goals of return home and adoption are not feasible.

TABLE 24. Continuous Time Spent in Various Stages of the Guardianship Process, FY'95

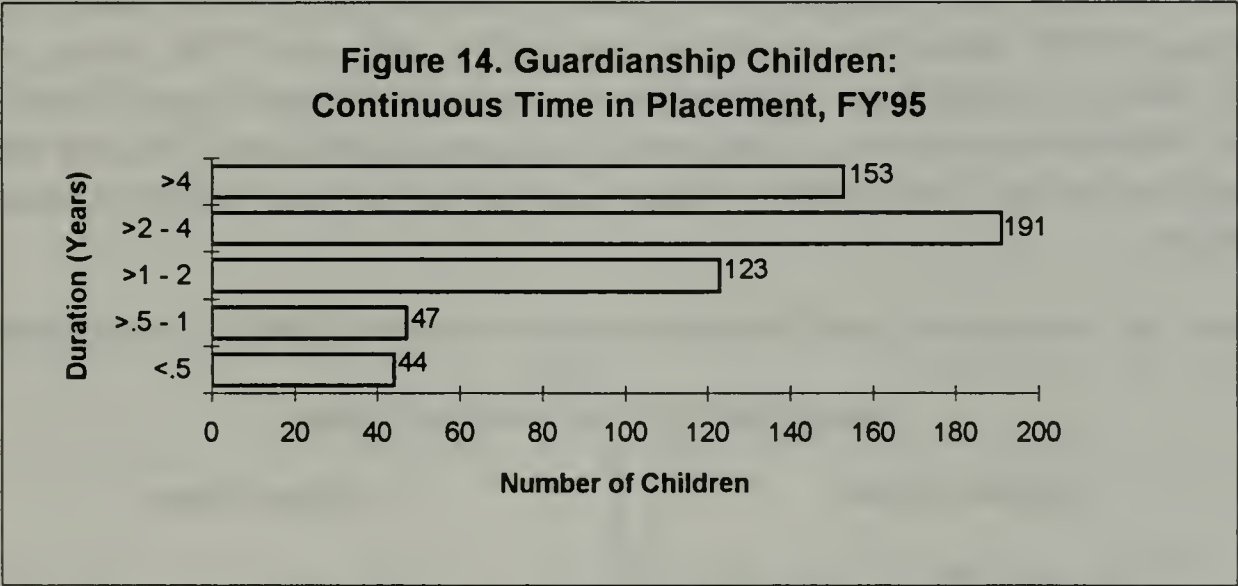
Adoption Process		Median Continuous Time in Placement			
		All Children	White Children	Black Children	Hispanic Children
Beginning Stage	Ending Stage	(yrs)	(yrs)	(yrs)	(yrs)
Most Recent Placement Entry	Placement with Guardian	0	0	0	0.2
Most Recent Placement Entry	Goal of Guardianship	2.1	1.5	2.5	2.4
Goal of Guardianship	Guardianship Granted	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.0
Most Recent Placement Entry	Guardianship Granted	2.8	2.0	3.4	2.6

Note: All Children includes Asian, Other, and Unspecified race/ethnicity.

The summation of median values determined for each stage does not equal the overall median value due to the distribution of the data within stages.

A recommendation to seek a goal of guardianship is followed by clinical and legal conferences to determine the appropriateness of the new goal and to devise the best plan for achieving it. If a child is legally free, the case can proceed directly to guardianship finalization. When a child is not legally free, DSS legal and social work staff must file a guardianship petition. If the petition is allowed by the court, a social worker carries out the finalization procedures leading to the guardian assuming custody of the child. In FY'95, it took between 8 and 9 months (.7 year median) to attain the goal of guardianship (Table 24).

Sixty-two percent of the guardianship children were in placement for more than two years before securing a guardianship (Fig. 14 and Table 25). Compared to FY'94, FY'95 statistics showed a notable gain in the proportion of children in placement between one and two years and a drop in the proportion of children in care for more than four years (Table 25). This accounted for the decline in median time spent in care (Fig. 15 on next page).



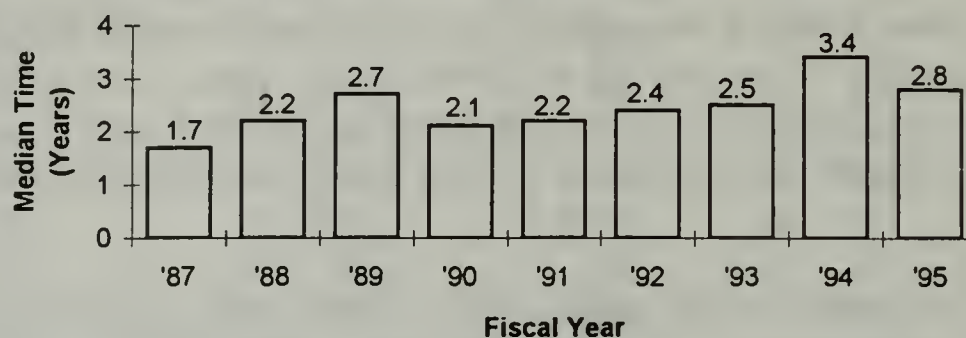
NOTE: Figure does not include 30 children for whom the time from placement entry to guardianship could not be determined.

Table 25. Continuous Time in Placement Prior to Leaving for Guardianship, FY'90 - FY'95

Fiscal Year	Continuous Time in Placement (yrs)														Total No.
	.5 or Less		>.5 to 1		>1 to 1.5		>1.5 to 2		>2 to 4		>4		Unavailable		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
1990	17	7%	17	7%	39	16%	27	11%	86	36%	39	16%	12	5%	237
1991	16	7%	17	8%	25	11%	36	16%	87	39%	30	13%	13	6%	224
1992	18	6%	33	10%	27	8%	44	14%	132	41%	51	16%	20	6%	325
1993	22	6%	27	8%	40	11%	35	10%	144	41%	72	21%	10	3%	350
1994	31	8%	27	7%	19	5%	22	5%	129	32%	148	37%	28	7%	404
1995	44	7%	47	8%	60	10%	63	11%	191	32%	153	26%	30	5%	588

NOTE: Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding-off.

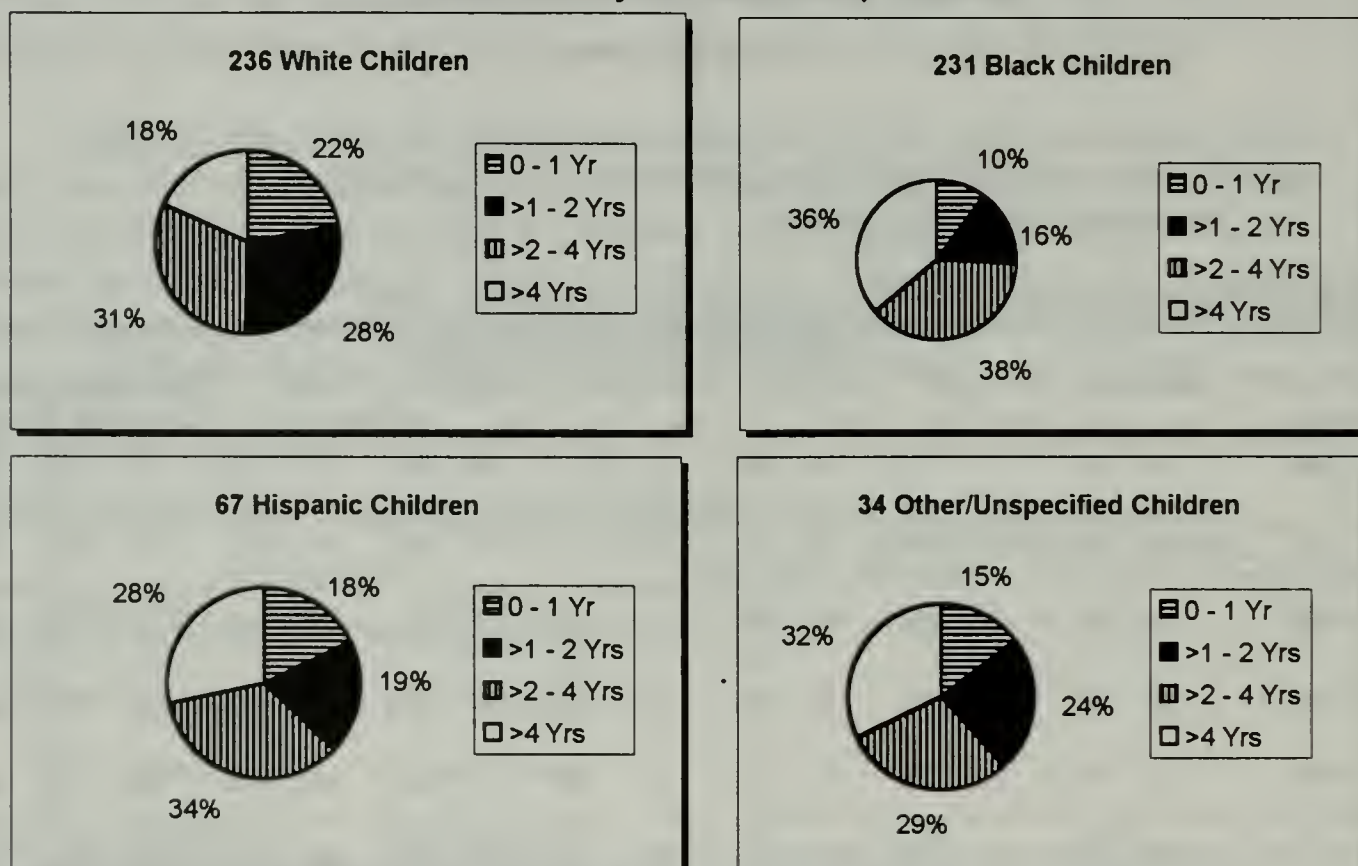
Figure 15. Continuous Time (Median) in Placement Prior to Granting Guardianship: FY'87 - FY'95



As with adoption, race/ethnicity had an impact on the length of time it took to secure a guardianship. Fifty percent of white and 63% of Hispanic children were in placement for more than two years prior to guardianship (Fig. 16, Table 26 on next page). In contrast, 74% of black children waited more than two years. This was a significant change from FY'94, when the proportions were 60%, 64%, and 90%, white, Hispanic, and black children, respectively. DSS staff were successful in securing guardianships for a group of children who had been in placement for a considerable length of time and could not be returned home. For a variety of reasons, adoption was not a feasible alternative for these children.

Figure 16. Continuous Time From Most Recent Placement Entry to Guardianship FY'95

Race/Ethnicity of Guardianship Children



NOTE: Figure does not include 30 children for whom the time from placement entry to guardianship could not be determined.

Table 26. Guardianship Children: Continuous Time in Placement by Ethnicity/Race, FY'95

Continuous Time in Placement (Years)	Ethnicity/Race											
	White		Black		Hispanic		Other		Unspecified		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
.5 or Less	21	8%	15	6%	6	9%	2	11%	--	--	44	7%
>.5 to 1	31	12%	7	3%	6	9%	3	17%	--	--	47	8%
>1 to 1.5	31	12%	17	7%	9	13%	2	11%	1	6%	60	10%
>1.5 to 2	36	14%	18	8%	4	6%	2	11%	3	18%	63	11%
>2 to 4	74	29%	84	36%	23	34%	5	28%	5	29%	191	32%
>4	43	17%	80	34%	19	28%	3	17%	8	47%	153	26%
Unavailable	16	6%	13	6%	--	--	1	6%	--	--	30	5%
Total	252	100%	234	100%	67	100%	18	100%	17	100%	588	100%

NOTE: Percentages may not sum to 100% due to rounding-off.

ADOPTION AND GUARDIANSHIP SUBSIDIES

Providing care and medical attention can be a considerable financial burden for adoptive parents and guardians of special-needs children. Families and individuals interested in becoming adoptive or guardian resources for these children are unable to do so without a form of financial aid. Subsidies, based on the special needs of the child, range from providing medical assistance (Medicaid) to providing financial assistance.

Adoption Subsidies

In FY'95, 1022 (93%) of the 1102 adoptions were subsidized. Compared to FY'94, the number of adoption subsidies was 22% higher (Table 27). Any increase in subsidies is a significant achievement, since it is not easy to find adoptive homes for special-needs children.

Table 27. Adoption Subsidies, FY'88 - FY'95

Fiscal Year	Total Adoptions No.	Adoptions Subsidized No.	Percentage Subsidized No.	Annual Change in Subsidized Adoptions No.
1988	536	457	85%	
1989	589	465	79%	2%
1990	554	454	82%	-2%
1991	595	495	83%	9%
1992	599	511	85%	3%
1993	709	642	91%	26%
1994	1,068	837	78%	30%
1995	1,102	1022	93%	22%

Thirty-one percent (317) of all adoption subsidies went to minority group children and 29% (292) to children with emotional disabilities. Annual changes in the number of children with particular special needs is presented below. Note the large increases in children with emotional bonds as a special need and children from minority groups.

Special Needs	Number of Children		Annual Change (%)
	FY'94 (No.)	FY'95 (No.)	
Minority Group ⁸	224	317	42%
Emotional Disability ⁹	265	292	10%
Physical Disability	115	144	25%
Emotional Bonds ¹⁰	47	97	106%
Sibling Group ¹¹	112	92	-18%
Child more than 12 years old	53	65	23%
Mental Disability	21	15	-29%

⁸Racial or ethnic factors

⁹Examples are diagnosed personality, behavioral, or psychiatric disorders.

¹⁰Significant emotional-psychological tie with foster parents (child has resided with foster parent for one or more years and separation would adversely affect the child's development if not adopted by them).

¹¹Includes half-siblings who should remain together.

Guardianship Subsidies

In FY'95, 431 (73%) of the 588 guardianships granted were subsidized. This was a 49% increase over the previous year (Table 28).

Table 28. Guardianship Subsidies, FY'88 - FY'95

Fiscal Year	Total Guardianships	Guardianships Subsidized	Percentage Subsidized	Annual Change in Subsidized Guardianships
	No.	No.	No.	No.
1988	216	152	70%	---
1989	262	167	64%	10%
1990	237	128	54%	-23%
1991	224	151	67%	18%
1992	325	168	52%	11%
1993	350	230	66%	37%
1994	404	290	72%	26%
1995	588	431	73%	49%

Children Receiving Subsidies at the End of FY'95

At the end of FY'95, 5,202 children were receiving adoption subsidies and 1,211 children were receiving guardianship subsidies. Compared to FY'94, this represents an 8% increase in adoption subsidies and a 24% increase in guardianship subsidies.

Appendix

Table A1. Children Eligible to be Freed by Chapter 303: Court and Manner Freed for Adoption

COURT FREED	Manner Child Freed for Adoption				Grand Total
	Chapter 210	Chapter 303	Voluntary		
			Surrender	Unspecified	
Berkshire Probate	1	0	0	0	1
Bristol Probate	3	0	0	0	3
Essex Probate	7	0	0	0	7
Franklin Probate	2	0	0	0	2
Hampden Probate	1	0	0	0	1
Middlesex Probate	3	0	0	0	3
Norfolk Probate	1	0	0	0	1
Plymouth Probate	1	0	0	0	1
Suffolk Probate	4	0	0	0	4
Barnstable District	0	2	0	0	2
Brockton District	0	3	0	0	3
Fitchburg District	0	1	0	0	1
Leominster District	0	2	0	0	2
Lowell District	0	1	0	0	1
Lynn District	0	1	0	0	1
Newton District	0	1	0	0	1
Salem District	0	1	0	0	1
Somerville District	0	1	0	0	1
Ware District	0	1	0	0	1
Westfield District	0	1	0	0	1
Boston Juvenile	0	21	0	0	21
Bristol County Juvenile	0	6	0	0	6
Worcester Juvenile	0	2	0	0	2
Not Applicable	0	0	7	3	10
Total	23	44	7	3	77

Table A2. Children Not Eligible to be Freed by Chapter 303: Court and Manner Freed for Adoption

COURT FREED	Manner Child Freed for Adoption					Grand Total
	Chapter 210	Court Reform	Deceased Parents	Voluntary Surrender	Unknown	
Barnstable Probate	12	0	0	0	0	12
Berkshire Probate	21	0	0	0	0	21
Bristol Probate	79	0	0	0	0	79
Essex Probate	65	0	0	0	0	65
Franklin Probate	19	0	0	0	0	19
Hampden Probate	78	0	0	0	0	78
Middlesex Probate	51	0	0	0	0	51
Norfolk Probate	3	0	0	0	0	3
Plymouth Probate	39	0	0	0	0	39
Suffolk Probate	213	0	0	0	0	213
Worcester Probate	78	0	0	0	0	78
Brockton District	0	4	0	0	0	4
Haverhill District	0	2	0	0	0	2
Holyoke District	0	5	0	0	0	5
Lawrence District	0	2	0	0	0	2
Lowell District	0	5	0	0	0	5
Lynn District	0	1	0	0	0	1
Pittsfield District	0	2	0	0	0	2
Ware District	0	1	0	0	0	1
(Westfield District	0	1	0	0	0	1
Boston Juvenile	0	7	0	0	0	7
Bristol Cnty Juvenile	0	19	0	0	0	19
Springfield Juvenile	0	3	0	0	0	3
Worcester Juvenile	0	3	0	0	0	3
Not Applicable	0	0	4	18	5	27
Total	658	55	4	18	5	740

